

MEMORANDUM ON JANIS

1. All indications point to the success of JANIS--to its superiority over previous publications and its widespread use.

a. Number of copies has been increased from an original of 750 to a standard of 2500. Even 2500 is insufficient to meet demands. (Distribution is shown in Tab. 1). Recent cables from Manila, for example, have asked for 500 extra copies of JANIS 85 (Central Japan) and 400 more copies of Chapter VIII, Cities and Towns. In past, only high priority requests have been filled, and even these cannot be met in quantity.

b. Numerous letters or verbal commendations have been received from the field indicating that JANIS is the "indispensable basic reference work" (Tabs. 2, 3 and 4 from CINCPAC, OPD and Joint War Plans Committee). JANIS has been used, copied and recopied in all echelons (Tab. 5 POA report on Formosa). JICPOA, for example, uses JANIS as the base for its own work, adding only new information received since the JANIS publication. JICPOA has revised its filing system to conform to the JANIS outline and for JANIS areas keeps files only on current information.

c. Advance copies of typescript and illustrations, as well as JANIS chapters, were regularly dispatched by air to forward echelons for immediate use. Advance JANIS illustrations and portions of text were often immediately incorporated in field reports and flown to task forces en route to combat areas.


2. The reasons for this success lie in the careful and thoughtful preparation of material which has resulted from the following procedures:

(1) a comprehensive, excellent outline was initially prepared to guide preparation; (2) as far as possible, preparation of each topic is assigned to specialists; if no specialists exist, they are created through being allowed to concentrate on one topic until competence is gained; furthermore,

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the JANIS Board occasionally shifts chapter preparation from one agency to another to take advantage of superior facilities; (3) the material is carefully read, by JANIS editors, both from a general and an expert point of view and differences between chapters are reconciled. By this process alone intelligence standards have been raised; several contributors have voluntarily remarked that JANIS has raised their standards. In addition, JANIS has been the means for getting agencies together to cooperate 25X4X7 mutual benefit on many problems.



4. In assaying the future of JANIS, several points should be borne in mind:

a. The present high quality should be maintained and with the less rigid deadlines of post-war strengthened still further. More cross-checking among contributors should be practiced; hence, the continuance of a Joint endeavor is desirable. If a given contribution is inadequate, it should be returned for further research. At present, lack of time largely precludes this; inadequate contributions, however, are rewritten and strengthened considerably by JANIS editors subject to time limitations.

b. One of the surprising features of JANIS is that, although it is written primarily to provide data for war planners, it is used by a variety of other customers. Civil Affairs use JANIS in quantity. The White House Map Room requests JANIS and receives it. State Department, Commerce, Federal Power Commission, Judge Advocate, Army-Navy Liquidation

Civilian Supply Section QMG
Commission, Maritime Commission and a host of agencies either use JANIS or have requested it. In many instances, the above agencies and others such as UNRRA have requested JANIS, but war-time security classifications or lack of copies have prevented fulfillment of the requests. In the post-war era such formerly subsidiary users will become important consumers of the basic factual content of JANIS. In war-time, the national interest in enemy areas has been largely military; in peace-time civilian agencies will participate more in this national interest. Slight changes and additions to JANIS can meet their needs more fully and yet protect the military needs.

Careful attention should also be given to new data needed for new means of waging war. Expansion of the Cities chapter, inasmuch as cities are the prime targets of atomic and other bombs, for example, appears desirable. (See list of chapters below for some possible changes).

c. Certain economies likewise can be made (For details see list of chapters below). Maps may be simpler and in fewer colors; with more time more data can be shown on some maps and greater uniformity effected, all of which will promote greater economy. Reproduction can be done by offset with photographs grouped together at the end of chapters. Number of copies can be reduced. If the JANIS schedule is reduced to 4 issues per year, a 50 per cent cut can be made in the JANIS staff, as well as considerable cuts in contributing agencies.